

3 Sierra amphibians pL and pCH

About the Documents

Titles: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Status for the Sierra Nevada Yellow-Legged Frog and the Northern Distinct Population Segment of the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog, and Threatened Status for the Yosemite Toad; Proposed Rule **AND** Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Sierra Nevada Yellow-Legged Frog, the Northern Distinct Population Segment of the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog, and the Yosemite Toad; Proposed Rule

Subject and Purpose: These documents announce the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) proposals to list the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog and the northern DPS of the mountain yellow-legged frog as endangered and to list the Yosemite toad as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (Act). These documents also announce proposed critical habitat for each of the three entities.

About the Peer Review Process

Type of review: Letter.

Number of reviewers: The peer review process included verbal requests and confirmation from five species and/or habitat experts to conduct peer review of the upcoming proposed rules, followed by individual letters mailed to the experts requesting their review upon publication of the proposed rules on April 25, 2013.

Reviewer Expertise: Primary expertise needed for the review is familiarity with the life history, threats, and habitat requirements of these three amphibians.

Selection of Peer Reviewer: The Service selected peer reviewers based on their expertise with the subject matter and lack of any conflicts of interest as described in the Office of Management Peer Review Guidelines.

Management of Peer Review: The peer review is being managed by the Service.

About Public Participation

Opportunities for the Public: The proposed rules have a public comment period from April 25, 2013, to June 24, 2013, and the proposed rules identify specific information requested from the public. Public comments are to be submitted by hard copy to the Service (Division of Policy and Directives Management) or electronically through www.regulations.gov.

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